

5/5/06 Steve Anderson

Acton Police Department

InterDepartmental Memo

RECEIVED
APR 18 2006

From: Frank J. Widmayer, Chief of Police

Date: April 18, 2006

To: Don Johnson, Town Manager

Subj: Sullo dogs

I am requesting that you schedule a hearing with the Board of Selectmen to discuss the latest incident involving the Sullo dogs. A copy of the incident report is attached to this memo.



Frank J. Widmayer
Chief of Police

4/19/06

CHRISTINE -
PLEASE SCHEDULE A HEARING
AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME.



Acton Police Department

Incident Narrative Report

Print Date: April 17, 2006

Printed By: TRogers

Narratives for Incident Number 2006000006697 ? Yes

Other Narratives not authorized for print? None

Narratives this user authorized to print:

Narrative by: Patrol Officer John Collins

<u>Date & Time</u>	<u>Narrative Description</u>	<u>Entered by</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Reviewed by</u>	<u>Last Edit Date</u>
04/16/2006 00:18		Patrol Officer John Collins	Open		04/16/2006

At the above time and date while on patrol in marked cruiser #29 in full uniform I was dispatched to 62 Maple St. for a report of two vicious dogs outside. The RP stated the dogs were acting very aggressive towards his two dogs.

Upon arrival at 62 Maple St. after exiting my cruiser, I was met there by Mr. Stephen Chen. Mr. Chen stated that his neighbor's dogs were out and they were terrifying him and his dogs. These dogs are owned by Mr. Gerald Sullo, Mr. Sullo resides at 64 Maple St. I walked towards Mr. Sullo's home to speak with him, as I was doing so Mr. Chen said to be careful the dogs are still outside somewhere. I walked up the front door of 64 Maple St. and rang the doorbell and knocked on the front door. There were two vehicles on the property and several lights were on in the home. When I knock on the door I heard two separate dogs barking from inside the home. I tried again to reach the home owner and again no answer and the dogs barking. I walked off the front steps and as I was entering the street I could hear a dog coming towards me, the sound of the tags were very distinct. Just as I heard the tags I could see the dog running towards me and then barking repeatedly at me. At that time I produced my baton and yelled for the dog to stop. The dog did not stop and ran in a circle about six to eight feet from me, barking and showing it's teeth the entire time. The dog eventually ran around me and entered the property from the opposite side of the house.

Just a few minutes after Officer Paul Cogan arrived on scene and witnessed me with my baton in hand. I told Officer Cogan what happened and he said that I was crazy for even getting out of my cruiser. Officer Cogan, Officer McCarthy and Officer Abramowitz had a similar experience with these animals in the past, along with several neighbors on Maple St. I asked Officer Cogan to take a ride up to Daniela's Cantina to look for Mr. Sullo only because I have seen his vehicle up there many times in the past. Officer Cogan radioed to dispatch to phone the restaurant to have Mr. Sullo come out to speak with us. I cleared from Maple St. and went to Daniela's Cantina to speak with Mr. Sullo. I spoke briefly with Mr. Sullo outside the restaurant and within a couple of seconds Mr. Sullo became verbally abusive towards me. I told Mr. Sullo to return home and put the animals back inside the house. Mr. Sullo got in the passenger side on MA.REG#14NC14, this vehicle belongs to Mr. David J. Thorne of 174A School St. I arrived at the address first, 64 Maple St., Mr. Sullo and Mr. Doe arrived shortly after. I exited my cruiser when they pulled up, again the dog started to bark violently until it heard Mr. Sullo's voice. Mr. Sullo got both the animals inside the home and came back out to speak with me. Again during the conversation Mr. Sullo began to yell at me and use profanity, I told Mr. Sullo if he continues to yell I will place him under arrest for being disorderly. Mr. Doe also tried to have Mr. Sullo not yell at me. I told Mr. Sullo that I was writing a report and that I would include the behavior of his dogs. Mr. Sullo asked me not to put that in my report.

I cleared, just as I was driving off I pulled up next to Mr. Sullo and advised him not to drive and have Mr. Doe take you home. Mr. Sullo stated "Don't worry I'm fine, Don't worry I'm fine."

Respectfully Submitted

Ptl Officer John Collins #99
Acton Police department

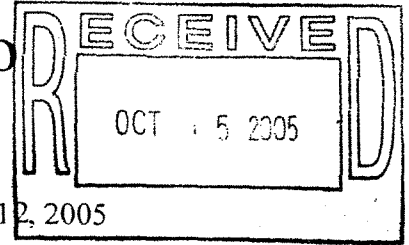
Signature - Reporting Officer

Signature - Reviewing Officer

BoS
14/01 (11)

Acton Police Department

InterDepartmental Memo



From: Frank J. Widmayer, Chief of Police

Date: October 12, 2005

To: Don Johnson, Town Manager

Subj: Nuisance dog complaint

I have received a written complaint from Tack Palmer, Dog Officer for the Town of Acton. He has responded numerous times over the past several years to the Maple Street area in order to contain two dogs owned by Gerard Sullo of 62 Maple Street, Acton. Two of the past incidents were dog bites and another recent incident involved two of the dogs loose again. Subsequently one was involved in an attack on an Acton Police Officer. Contrary to Tack's statement in his complaint, the dog that attacked the officer did not bite her pants. Nevertheless, these dogs are aggressive and menacing and residents are afraid to be near them. My officers felt there was enough danger in this situation that they called the dog officer out of his house after midnight to control the problem.

I am requesting that the Board of Selectmen call in Mr. Sullo for a hearing on this dog nuisance complaint and then to take whatever action they deem appropriate. I agree with Dog Officer Palmer that prior attempts to handle this situation have had no effect.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Frank J. Widmayer", written over a horizontal line.

Frank J. Widmayer
Chief of Police

Tuesday, October 11, 2005

Acton Police Chief
365 Main Street
Acton, MA 01720

Frank, per our conversation of Tuesday October 11, 2005, I have compiled the numerous dog related incidents pertaining to the 2 German Shepherds owned by Jerry Sullo of 62 Maple Street Acton.

On 3 occasions Mr. Sullo has been fined for his dogs roaming off his property and creating a nuisance.

3/17/04, 4/26/04, 10/1/05

Other complaints have been registered in the past 2 years about German Shepherds in the South Acton area but could not be directly tied to the Sullo dogs.

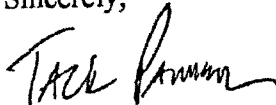
2 dog bite incidents have been logged against Jerry Sullo in the past 2 years with quarantine orders being issued against his 2 Shepherds.
6/19/03, 4/26/04

On the night of 10/1/05 at 12:15am, I received a call from an Acton 911 dispatcher requesting help with 2 vicious dogs that were terrorizing the Maple Street neighborhood. Upon my arrival, I met with 2 Acton police officers that had both seen the dogs running on Maple Street in a vicious manor. One officer stated that the shepherds in question had attacked her and her pants had been bitten. She had to spray the dog with pepper spray to get the dog to retreat.

The dogs then retreated to the Sullo home where I secured 2 open glass doors so that they could not again exit the residence. The owners were not home at the time of this incident.

To prevent future incidents like the above mentioned, I am requesting that this be brought to a Selectmen's hearing to solve this ongoing neighborhood problem.

Sincerely,



Tack Palmer
Acton Dog Officer/Animal Inspector